



## World Christian Fellowship

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### Can a Christian have medicine for sickness?

The New Testament does not teach that miracles of healing are available to all believers throughout time. Such miracle-working was of a temporal duration and designed to confirm the truth being taught and to produce faith in that truth.

If the purpose of miracles of healing was to alleviate the physical suffering of believers and was available to any believer who had sufficient faith, we would not read about such as the following:

Paul had infirmity that caused him great suffering; three times he earnestly prayed that it might be removed, but it was not! (**2 Corinthians 12:7-9**)

Epaphroditus came to Paul at Rome and became gravely ill, but Paul who had miraculously healed so many did not miraculously heal him (**Philippians 2:25-30**).

Paul who had miraculously healed so many left **Trophimus** at Miletus sick (**2 Timothy 4:20**).

The New Testament does not teach that it is wrong to seek or receive medical attention.

Healing herbs and medicines are a part of God's creation.

Medical practitioners are but drawing upon the knowledge and wisdom that God made available and but cooperating with and using the great laws of nature that God authored.

1. No condemnation of medical remedies can be found in the Bible.
2. If surgery on the human body is inherently wrong, why did God require circumcision of the male descendants of Abraham (Gen. 17), and why did he choose what we now know from a medical standpoint to be the best time (the 8th day)?
3. 6 laws were given by God is to prevent your bodies from sickness.

**Sanitation**, preventing infection (**Deuteronomy 23:14**)

**Sterilization**, guarding against contagion (**Leviticus 11:32,39,40**)

**Quarantine**, isolating infectious disease (**Numbers 5:4; 31:22-23**)

**Hygiene and Dietetics** (**Leviticus 11; 19:7; Numbers 11:19-20**)

**Physical Culture**, each Israelite, even the priest, worked his own lot (**Deuteronomy 16:16**)

**Recuperation**, the seventh day and the seventh month reserved for rest.

4. The Bible mentions several plant products that were used by the people for medicinal reasons, and such use was not labelled sinful: aloe, anise, balm of Gilead, caperberry, cumin, figs, fitches, gall, mandrake, myrrh, ointment, olive oil, rue, saffron, and wine.
5. Isaiah prescribed a cake of figs to be laid upon Hezekiah's boil (**2 Kings 20:7**).
6. To alleviate the affliction of Job with boils Job sat in ashes and scraped his boils with a potsherd (**Job. 2:7-8**)
7. Physicians are referred in the scriptures.

Job 13:4; 2 Chronicles 16:12; and Jeremiah 8:22. Employing the services of such physicians is not condemned.

**Jeremiah 8:22**, *Is there no balm in Gilead, Is there no physician there? Why then is there no recovery For the health of the daughter of my people?*

8. If the use of medicine for the healing of the body was sinful, God would not use such a figure in a good sense. **Proverbs 17:22**, *"A cheerful heart is a good medicine. "* **Ezekiel 47:12 and Revelation 22:2**.
9. Jesus spoke about physician.

**Luke 5:31-32**, *Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup>I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."*

10. Paul refers to Luke as "the beloved physician,"  
**(Colossians 4:14)**

Both medicines and physicians are limited in what they can accomplish.

But it is not sinful for a Christian to either consult a physician or to take medication.